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FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33,983)

Name of applicant, assignee or registered representative

Frank C. Nicholas

Signature

February 5, 2004

Date of Signature

PATENT

Case No. DP-305565

(7500/87)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)

BRYAN P. RIDDIFORD, ET AL.)

Serial No.: 10/081,122)

Filed: FEBRUARY 22, 2002)

Title: FAST MODE RELEASE IN A FORCE)
GENERATING APPARATUS)

Examiner:
WILLIAMS, THOMAS J.

Group Art Unit: 3683

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 6, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22202-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a response to a Non-Final Office Action dated January 6, 2004. The
Applicants respond as follows.